



Eugene W. Grant
Mayor

CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT POLICE DEPARTMENT

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SEAT PLEASANT, MARYLAND 20743



Devan A. Martin
Chief of Police

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, January 21, 2019

News Release: 2019-004

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AGGRESSIVE & DISTRACTED DRIVING ENFORCEMENT "OPERATION GUARDIAN"

Seat Pleasant, MD –The City of Seat Pleasant Police Department is working to save lives by reminding drivers to obey the rules of the road, posted speed limits, and that all occupants of a motor vehicle should be secured with a seat belt or child safety device. To promote awareness of traffic laws, change driver behavior, and educate motorists & pedestrians on traffic safety, the City of Seat Pleasant Police Department will be enhancing our traffic enforcement efforts.

Data analytics provided from **The Seat Pleasant's Center for Government Synergism (CGS)** through our traffic enforcement technology has found a repeated problem with speeding to such a degree that over 700 vehicles were found to have exceeded the posted speed limit daily between the hours of 6:00am – 7:00am, which are peak school crossing and commuter hours. The City of Seat Pleasant has been characterized as a transit hub due to an estimation of over 140,000 vehicles traveling through the city daily and its proximity to two METRO stations.

"As a Smart City we allow the data to drive our enforcement efforts knowing that data driven solutions often provide the greatest impact. It is our goal to save lives through enforcement and education." Said, Chief Devan Martin

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), more than 9,700 lives were lost across America in speeding-related traffic crashes in 2017. Additionally, fatalities related to motor vehicle crashes have increased 200% since 2018 in the City of Seat Pleasant.

"Even one life lost to speeding is one too many, our goal is to save and protect the lives of our citizens and those that travel through our city. Drivers need to remember that there is a reason posted speed limits and seat belt laws exist," said Mayor Eugene W. Grant.

"Our goal is not to just write citations and assess fines to violators. We want to engage and educate the community as well." Said Chief Devan Martin. During **"Operation Guardian"** officers will be providing informational pamphlets to each driver stopped.

The roadways can be a dangerous place, the speed limits, seat belt laws, and distracted driving laws are designed to protect everyone – drivers, passengers and pedestrians. Officers will be out in force in the Martin Luther King Jr. Highway corridor stopping drivers who are speeding, distracted, and not wearing seat belts.

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